

maternal grandfather bestowed the nickname "Butch" upon him at a young age and it stuck with him his entire life. Butch was the first born son of Gregory O. and Vivian M. Dias. He attended Kit Carson Elementary School and Hanford Union High School before attending California State University, Fresno. He was involved with his family's farm operation most of his life, eventually helping his parents form their family business, Gregory O. Dias and Sons Dairy and Farming Incorporated. Butch helped his parents grow the business into many dairies and farms throughout Kings and Tulare Counties.

In 1974, Butch married Alice Vander Tuig in Hanford, California. While growing their business, the couple had three children, Rachelle, Darren, and Gregory. Eventually, Butch and his wife acquired Delta View Dairy Farming, which they renamed Rachelle's Jerseys in honor of their daughter, Rachelle, who lost her life in a tragic car accident.

A third-generation dairy farmer, Mr. Dias was a great farmer and a true leader within the industry. He was passionate about farming, the land, and the animal and enjoyed working with his two sons Greg and Darren every day. In addition to agriculture, Butch enjoyed traveling the world.

He traveled the world learning about other cultures and making friends, all while promoting California agriculture abroad. Butch enjoyed talking, visiting, entertaining, and cooking. He was a "barbecue specialist" who often volunteered to cook for family events and community activities. His barbecue was renowned throughout the Central Valley. He believed one should give back to his community, and led by example, contributing extensively to the surrounding community.

Mr. Dias was involved in numerous organizations throughout his life: 4-H Mid Valley Chapter, Hanford FFA, State Champion Milk Judging Team, Kings County Herd Improvement Association, California Milk Advisory Board, Dairyman's Cooperative Creamery association, California Dairy Research Council, U.S. Jersey Association, Luso-American, Delta View School District, Widgeon Land and Cattle, Exeter Duck Club and Farm Credit West. Butch also bravely served his country in the Vietnam War as a member of the United States Navy.

Butch is survived by his wife Alice, their sons; Darren and his wife Tabitha, and Gregory and his wife Melanie. Butch loved his children and was blessed to become a grandfather to their children, Nixon, Wren, Hudson, Bristol, and Reed.

Mr. Speaker, today we ask our colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join us in honoring the life of Mr. Gregory O. "Butch" Dias, Jr. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for votes Tuesday, January 9, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted: Roll Call No. 2, Aye; Roll Call No. 3, Aye; and Roll Call No. 4, Aye.

THERE IS LIGHT

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a great American Hero, The Eagle of The Senate and his coming battle. Our hopes and prayers are with JOHN MCCAIN. I ask that this poem penned in his honor by Albert Carey Caswell be included in the RECORD.

There is darkness
And there is light
Coming out of the darkness burning ever so bright
With the kind of faith of our Fathers, which
built this Nation ignites
Of hope, faith, honor, service, and courage
ever so bright
Now, there is a battle,
And there is a fight
Looming out in the darkness on the floor of
the Senate on this very night
With all of our Nation's prayers in sight
As once again,
America's Son, her Hero, her friend,
John McCain is in the battle for his life.
As this great leader's heart once again must
somehow ignite
But, where there is darkness,
there is the light.
And you'll find men like John McCain,
this Top Gun whose soul burns ever so very
bright
Coming out of the darkness burning so
bright
Who out of this darkness will bring his light,
The kind which built this great Nation to its
very height
As has John been armed with throughout the
generations,
with "The Faith of His Fathers" so all in
plain sight
Who have fought and served this Nation with
all of their might
Like Father Like Son, as has John always
this one
Courageously served this Nation,
starting with his ancestor serving under
George Washington
As his Grandfather and Father,
the first Admiral team serving this Nation
as one
All too has John all in his life's work in what
he has done
Showing us all,
the definition of courage as one of America's
Greatest of Sons
Not as The Lion of The Senate but as an
Eagle this one
Who throughout the years has soared on the
floor of the Senate,
battling for each and every one
Crossing the aisle,
this man of such style when it had to be done
Leading everyone
Now there's a battle
And there's a fight
Upon, the Senate floor on this very night
With America's Hero heart burning bright
Coming out of this darkness shining his light
To teach us all what is magnificent and what
is right
Now, it's fourth and long
As America's Son's heart beats strong.
My money is on John,
Whose life sings like a song,
Who has always come out of the darkness,
With the heart of a champion and an eagle to
which it belongs.
No matter the battle,
No matter the fight,
Even as a POW, this Hero came out of that
darkness shining bright.

John, your roommate in the Hanoi Hilton
Bud Day,
up in Heaven,
is watching over you on this very night.
Because, John has always come armed with
his light.
No matter the battle,
No matter the fight,
Either way John, the world still wins.
Continuing as the leader of the Senate, as
America's friend
Or as an Angel in The Army of our Lord
whose time so begins
To watch over us again and again
To fight that battle against the darkness
which we must win
John, win that war.
Win that fight!
For you have blessed this great Nation with
all of your light
But, my money's on you John,
because in the end the darkness does not
match the light,
The kind brilliance which emanates from
your great soul on this very night.
God bless you our Son in your upcoming
fight
As you bless our hearts once again,
we look upon your light.
There is light.
Amen.

COMPACT IMPACT RELIEF ACT

HON. MADELINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I reintroduce the Compact Impact Relief Act to address the costs of providing local public services to migrants under the Compacts of Free Association.

I am very pleased to have the support of our colleagues from Hawai'i and the Northern Mariana Islands, as original cosponsors.

Under the Compacts, an unlimited number of citizens from three Freely Associated States (FAS)—the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau—may live and work in the United States.

Compact migrants effectively enjoy the same freedoms of movement and to work as lawful permanent residents, like green card holders, in our country do.

As such, our bill seeks to allow Compact migrants to participate in select federal programs, if they meet the program criteria, the same way that green card holders can under current law.

Importantly, our bill ensures that federal resources are not diverted from U.S. citizens and nationals in order to accommodate Compact migrants.

Economic conditions and the reality of climate change for Pacific island nations have driven more and more Compact migrants to the United States.

Guam remains the primary destination for Compact migrants, followed closely by Hawai'i.

According to the most recent Census Bureau figures, more than 76,000 FAS citizens reside in the United States, including nearly 18,000 on Guam.

I appreciate that the Compacts remain important to American strategic interests in the Asia-Pacific region, including Guam's security.

I also know—firsthand—the significant contributions that Compact migrants make to

Guam and other communities as far away as Springdale, Arkansas.

Many citizens of the Freely Associated States serve proudly in the United States military.

However, insufficient support from the federal government causes serious strain on local jurisdictions with significant Compact migrant communities.

The costs borne by GovGuam and other local governments are simply unsustainable.

Congress must act to provide federal relief to Guam and other jurisdictions required to serve these underprivileged Compact migrant communities.

Mr. Speaker, that is exactly what the Compact Impact Relief Act would do.

Our bill includes novel policy changes that would provide additional federal resources for Guam, Hawai'i, and other states and territories.

In particular, the Compact Impact Relief Act ensures that Guam—and other territories—can utilize fully important federal programs including: Job Corps centers funded by the U.S. Department of Labor; national and community service programs like AmeriCorps and the Youth Conservation Corps; and an accurate 10-year census that counts Compact migrant residents.

Our bill would permit Guam and other affected jurisdictions to apply costs spent providing public services to Compact migrants toward the non-federal portion required to provide Medicaid to Americans.

The bill also classifies Compact migrant schoolchildren as “federally connected students” to make local schools serving them eligible for impact aid funding from the U.S. Department of Education.

Importantly, our bill authorizes additional funding so that Compact migrant students do not take resources away from school districts receiving federal impact aid currently.

Next, our bill requires comprehensive assessments of: the Compacts and their implementation; the economies of jurisdiction affected by the Compacts and the three Freely Associated States; and the unique health needs of Pacific Islanders.

As the United States looks to renew the Compacts ahead of their expiration in fiscal year 2023, the federal government cannot continue to force local jurisdictions to shoulder the substantial costs of accommodating Compact migrants.

Guam and other states and territories affected by Compact migrants need to be reimbursed fairly for the costs of serving these underprivileged communities.

Congress must increase mandatory funding for Compact impact to the level recommended by the Government Accountability Office (GAO), as I have called for consistently.

In the meantime, I urge this House to pass the practical policy changes included in my Compact Impact Relief Act into law.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on Monday, January 8,

and Tuesday, January 9, 2018, due to a family emergency.

If I had been able to vote, I would have voted as follows:

On the Quorum Call for establishing a quorum in the House of Representatives for the Second Session of the 115th Congress, I would have answered “present.”

On H. Res. 676, supporting the rights of the people of Iran to free expression, condemning the Iranian regime for its crackdown on legitimate protests, and for other purposes, I would have voted “yea.”

On H.R. 4564, the Post-Caliphate Threat Assessment Act of 2017, I would have voted “yea.”

On H.R. 4581, the Screening and Vetting Passenger Exchange Act of 2017, I would have voted “yea.”

IN HONOR OF PHYLLIS HAHN'S RECOGNITION FOR HER OUT- STANDING WORK SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS

HON. LIZ CHENEY

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to Phyllis Hahn on being recognized with twin Certificates of Commendation for her outstanding cooperation and participation in serving our veterans.

Inspired by her family's long tradition of military service and the deep national patriotism and commitment to supporting our armed forces she grew up with during World War II, Phyllis has been dedicated to assisting and honoring our veterans for almost 70 years. Phyllis joined the American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 1 at 15 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary No. 3511 one year later because she was too young to serve in the military herself. Since then, she has been an active and faithful member of both organizations, currently serving as the president of the American Legion Auxiliary and treasurer of the VFW Auxiliary.

Phyllis' patriotism and dedication to supporting our veterans is exceptional. She understands the needs of our former servicemen and is committed to giving them the assistance they need and deserve. Phyllis has made an excellent example to her friends, her family, and people across our state.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Phyllis Hahn for her recognition, and thank her for her commitment and many contributions to our veterans and to our great state.

RECOGNIZING GREG KOSTKA IN HONOR OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE HOUSE OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, each year for the past 57 years the Congress has passed annual legislation to authorize the

policies, programs, and activities of the Department of Defense. Today, we refer to this important legislation as the National Defense Authorization Act. Crafting this bill is no easy task, and it couldn't be done without the countless hours of work put in by the House Armed Services Committee staff and the attorneys at the House Office of Legislative Counsel. Today, I rise to honor a member of the legislative counsel team to thank him for his 31 years of service to the House of Representatives, and especially to the House Armed Services Committee.

A graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School, Greg Kostka joined the House Office of Legislative Counsel in 1986 and has had a hand in the drafting of each National Defense Authorization Act since the Fiscal Year 1989 bill. While Greg's focus areas have been in military personnel, military justice, military construction, and readiness, he is known by his colleagues as someone capable of drafting in virtually any area of defense law if called upon. And from 2016 to 2017, Greg served as the defense team lead in the Office of Legislative Counsel.

Greg's expertise and interest in the military extended beyond his time drafting legislation in his office. As an amateur historian of the Civil War, Greg wrote an unofficial history of the role of the Third U.S. Regular Infantry during the American Civil War. I understand that he also participated in Civil War reenactments.

Greg was a regular participant in annual legislative update programs for the military's Judge Advocate Generals and accompanied committee staff on visits to several military installations. Greg brought his expertise and interest with him every day, and his work showed that he cared deeply about the men and women who serve in uniform.

Greg's professionalism and institutional knowledge have been greatly appreciated by his colleagues in the Office of Legislative Counsel as well as by Members and staff who have had the pleasure of working with him over the years. After 31 years of dedicated service to the House of Representatives, Greg announced his retirement from the Office of Legislative Counsel on December 31, 2017.

On behalf of all the Members and staff of the House Armed Services Committee, I offer my sincere gratitude to Greg for his expertise and wise counsel over the years and wish him, and his wife Jeanine, all the best in his retirement.

HONORING GUS FRANK, CHAIRMAN OF THE FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gus Frank, Chairman of the Forest County Potawatomi Executive Council, who recently announced that he is retiring after 20 years of dedicated service to his tribe. Gus has worked tirelessly for the benefit of his people—and he's always done it with a smile on his face. I'm proud to have worked with Gus for several years on many issues affecting our communities and I'm proud to call him a friend. I congratulate him on his retirement. Gus has truly earned it.